

# United States Senate

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February 4, 2016

The Honorable Ernest Moniz  
Secretary  
United States Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Moniz:

On February 2, 2016, the Senate unanimously agreed to include my Aliso Canyon Task Force amendment to S.2012, the energy bill.

As you know, the amendment directs the Department of Energy to lead a broad federal review of the cause and response to the natural gas leak at Southern California Gas Company's Aliso Canyon Natural Gas Storage Facility, and to make recommendations on immediate steps that could assist in solving this gas leak and in preventing and responding to future leaks from underground storage facilities elsewhere in the country.

The fate of the Energy Policy Modernization Act is now in question due to other matters in contention amongst my colleagues. In addition, the bill still has to go to the House.

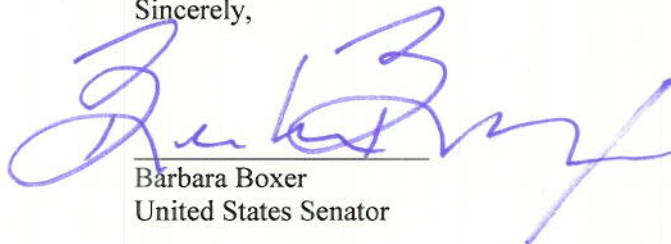
Therefore, while I understand that you may not have the authority to compel the creation of an interagency task force, as described within the text of the amendment, I believe that your expertise is urgently needed to help resolve this situation.

I am asking that you visit the site and analyze the ongoing crisis. My staff and I would enthusiastically arrange the meetings and logistics required for your travel.

I am convinced you are the right person to lead this effort and to help provide relief to the thousands of people in my state that have been negatively affected by this horrible tragedy.

I look forward to working with you on this matter.

Sincerely,



Barbara Boxer  
United States Senator